



Missouri Department of Natural Resources

Water Quality Coordinating Committee Water Pollution Control Program

Minutes

October 19, 2004

WATER QUALITY COORDINATING COMMITTEE

USGS Columbia Environmental Research Center
4200 New Haven Road
Columbia, Missouri

October 19, 2004
10:00 a.m.

MEETING AGENDA

Missouri River Public Use Assessment: An Overview
Steve Sheriff, Missouri River Public Use Assessment Coordinator, MDC

Missouri's Resource Assessment Program
Matt Combes, Stream Ecologist, Missouri Department of Conservation

Other
WQ Standards Revisions
UAA Protocol
Water Classification Guidelines
303(d) Listing Methodology and Listing Schedule

Agency Activities

Meetings & Conferences

MISSOURI WATER QUALITY COORDINATING COMMITTEE

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MINUTES

Attendees:

Becky Shannon	DNR/WPSCD/WPP-WPCB	Clif Baumer	USDA-NRCS
Priscilla Stotts	DNR/WPSCD/WPP-WPCB	Randy Lyman	Springfield Public Works
Carol K. Garey	DNR/WPSCD/WPP-WPCB	Bob Hentges	MO Public Utility Alliance
Ann Crawford	DNR/WPSCD/WPP-WPCB	Steve Sheriff	MDC
Gail Wilson	DNR/WPSCD/WPP-WPCB	Trent Stober	MEC, Water Resources
Charlie DuCharme	DNR/GSRAD/WRP	Renee Marten	MEC, Water Resources
Charles Hays	DNR/GSRAD/WRP	Caitlyn Peel	St. Louis HBA
Lynn Stanley	USDA-ARS	Anne Peery	DNR/WPSCD/WPP-WPCB
Bob Broz	UMC Outreach & Extension	Dorris Bender	City of Independence, WPC
Miya Barr	USGS-WRD	Mary Lappin	KCMo Water Services
Randy Asbury	Environmental Resources Coalition	Mary West	City of Moberly
Buffy Santel	MSD	Angel Kruzen	Water Sentinel/Sierra Club
Cindy DiStefano	MO Dept. of Conservation	Darlene Schaben	DNR/WPSCD/WPP-WPCB
Randy Sarver	DNR/ALPD/ESP		

Introductions were made.

Missouri River Public Use Assessment: An Overview,

Steve Sheriff, Missouri River Public Use Assessment Coordinator, MDC
(PowerPoint Presentation)

Steve works with MDC's Resource Science Division. He has worked for the department for 26 years. He is excited about working on this study of Missouri River public use assessment. This is a joint project working with MDC and the Nebraska Game and Parks Commission. Rochelle Renken of MDC and Gerald Mestl of Nebraska Game and Parks Commission are co-project leaders and coordinators. The goal is to determine the public's use of the lower unimpounded portion of the Missouri River and look at the economic values of these activities. An earlier study was done by UMC Professors Gillespie and Lind in 1973 from mid-Nebraska to St. Louis. They estimated about one million recreation dates by the public. In 1980's, George Fleener, MDC, divided the river into 4 segments from St. Louis to the Iowa line, covering one segment per year. He estimated from 500,000 to 850,000 annual visits to the river and the economic value of recreational use to be about two million dollars. Because of the floods of 1993 and 1995, MDC was asked to conduct another survey of public use of the Missouri River. Their objectives are to estimate the number of public users engaged in different types of activities; estimate amount of time users spend engaged in each; estimate harvest by species for people hunting and fishing; estimate economic value of the Missouri River to the public; and estimate socio-characteristics of river users. Interviews will be conducted at public and private access points from St. Louis to Gavins Point Dam, which covers 811 river miles. The survey runs from January 3, 2004 through January 28, 2005. Steve discussed their sampling time intervals and the geographic stratification. An interview clerk has a list of interview questions and records types of activities, number of people and their harvest. They also ask about the travel distance to determine economic value. Information is also used to determine consumer surplus value. Steve stressed that the information from this survey will not be used to start assessing fees for river use.

Steve mentioned the progress made on this project. They have financial support from Nebraska Game and Parks Commission; they have developed GIS products of access sites; a pilot survey is completed from Glasgow to Waverly; sampling methodologies have been established; interview clerks started on January 3, 2004; and they have completed counting people at Lewis and Clark events.

Steve said they are actively collecting river stage data at noon each day to include with the river use data.

Steve indicated results should be available in approximately a year and one-half and would like to return to this group to present those. Data can also be shared at that time.

Steve can be contacted at (573) 882-9880 extension 3221 if you have any questions.

Missouri's Resource Assessment Program, Matt Combes, Stream Ecologist, Missouri Department of Conservation
Unavailable for presentation.

Other

Water Quality Standards Revisions; UAA Protocol; Water Classification Guidelines; 303(d) Listing Methodology and Listing Schedule, Phil Schroeder, DNR, WPP
(Handout with updates)

Presenting for Phil, Becky passed along that the water quality standards revisions are moving forward. The Regulatory Impact Report has been published and is available on the department's web site (address on handout). Comments will be accepted until December 16, 2004. Information regarding whom to address comments to is available on the web site. Informal questions can be sent directly to Phil by e-mail.

The Use Attainability Analysis protocol was approved by the Clean Water Commission at its September 29, 2004, meeting. Becky said we can be contacted to obtain a copy or it will be on the department's web site soon.

The 303(d) Listing Methodology was also approved by the Commission at its September meeting and will be on the department's web site soon. Public meetings are anticipated late December or early January.

Water Classification Guidelines discussions are still ongoing.

In answer to a question about the amount of swimming done in the Missouri River, Steve Sheriff said that at several locations, swimming, jet skiing and water skiing happens most every weekend.

Agency Activities

Randy Lyman said they have been involved in a plant expansion at Springfield's southwest wastewater treatment plant and are getting ready for another at the northwest plant. Sand filters were reconfigured and converted into carbon filters to remove more nitrogen. The northwest plant will be going to phosphorus and nitrogen removal. They are planning to move away from chlorine disinfection and dechlorination to UV disinfection.

Clif Baumer routed some brochures. The first was "The Upper White Review" which is a newsletter to be produced on a regular basis by the South Missouri Water Quality Project Office. The second was about the Conservation Partnership Initiative (CPI), which focuses on developing area wide management plans for specific

resource concerns and implementing those plans. MDC sent in an application entitled 'Northwest Missouri Bob White Buffers Enhancement' which was ranked first by the Missouri CPI review committee. The Missouri Chapter of the Nature Conservancy submitted an application entitled 'Sustainable Niangua River Initiative' which ranked second. Both applications have been submitted to the NRCS national headquarters for possible funding. There is an article in CTIC's Partners magazine that talks about a similar initiative in Michigan. The last brochure is about the Conservation Security Program (CSP). Currently, Little River Ditches watershed is in the CSP. Recently, NRCS submitted eight 8-digit basins in the state for funding under the CSP. It is a watershed approach that tends to seek landowners that are doing a good job of managing their land and reward them and encourage them to do more. The brochure explains more.

Clif mentioned that Bob Ball now has additional duties. He is now Missouri's State Resource Conservationist but still maintains his water quality role as well. He still plans to attend the WQCC meetings.

Randy Sarver asked about how watersheds were identified for the CSP. Clif explained the watershed selection criteria and mentioned that those are included in the brochure.

Angel Kruzen mentioned while looking for a karst rock they discovered a location on the upper section of the Jack's Fork River where channelizing was taking place. They are now working with DNR, Fish and Wildlife Service and the Army Corps of Engineers to get this corrected.

Bob Broz mentioned an Environmental Management Systems meeting for poultry producers in Pineville, Missouri, on October 26. This is part of a 319 project. The Soil & Water Conservation District Conference (Nov. 29-Dec. 1 at Tan-Tar-A) and Natural Resources Conference (Feb. 2-4 at Tan-Tar-A) are coming up. On April 12-14, the Water Quality Short Course is tentatively scheduled. The National Water Quality Conference is scheduled February 7-9, 2005, in San Diego.

Charlie DuCharme talked about a minimum flow study being done on the White River reservoirs, which includes Table Rock, Bull Shoals, Norfork and Beaver lakes. The purpose is to enhance trout fisheries. The study is to see the impacts of reallocating water in the reservoirs. Little Rock Corps of Engineers (LRCOE) District completed the study with assistance from their northwest office, Tennessee Valley Authority and Southwest Power Administration. USGS and MDC also assisted. The report is on the LRCOE web page. The district recommended no action at this time. Comments can be submitted to LRCOE.

Carol Garey discussed the Missouri County Planning Statutes Group 2004, which is composed of public officials, county officials, county commissioners and planners, to introduce legislation this fall. This will provide for a voluntary way in the statutes for counties to do more comprehensive land use planning.

Priscilla Stotts reported that World Water Monitoring Day was October 18. She attended events over the weekend in St. Louis at the First Annual Celebration for Clean Water and spent time with U.S. Chairperson, Ed Moyer. The Stream Team Program monitored the Meramec River on that day. She plans to remind the group next September to be ready to monitor in October. She expressed excitement that so many citizens around the world are concerned about water quality.

Becky informed the group that the next round of Request for Proposals (RFP) for 319 applications should be out in January. The recipients of the FY04 RFP should be announced before that.

Steve Sheriff said the Corps of Engineers from Vicksburg, Mississippi, is conducting a public use assessment on the White River region. Public use information will be forthcoming.